

In 1929 a small group of civic-minded women had a dream. Their dream was for Mascoutah to have a free public library. In their first formal meeting in January, 1929, Mrs. William Freivogel stated that the members of the Mascoutah Women's Club would take an active interest in civic affairs and that they would try to start a library. They then discussed the feasibility of undertaking such a large project.

Establishing a library was a huge task for 19 women who had no money, no books, no building to house the library and no furnishings. Their first major step was to find a suitable building for their needs. For six dollars a month they rented a small, two room brick house at 15 West Main Street across from the Cottage Hotel, the present site of the Mascoutah Post Office. Their goal was to have the building ready for occupancy by April 1, 1929. The women, along with a high school teacher and his assistants, built shelving and tables and opened the library with a small number of donated books.

The women's club then looked for a funding source for their new library. Funding was secured for the library by going directly to the citizens of the community. The club divided Mascoutah into sections and assigned members a group of homes or businesses to visit and ask for financial support for the library. Citizens were eager to support the library and their first fundraiser netted \$125.61. The club also appealed for donations of books for the new library and the response from the public was overwhelming.

By 1930, the library had between 1,500 and 1,800 books on its shelves. Other fund-raising projects by the Women's Club included public card parties and tea receptions. The Club also saved and redeemed soap wrappers for cash and sponsored book reviews. However, financial operations for the library continued to be a burden. It was during this time that the Works Progress Administration (WPA) opened many libraries in the area and they became interested in assisting the Mascoutah Public Library. The WPA-aided library reopened on October 31, 1938 and extended the operating hours. With the addition of these new funds, a librarian and custodian were appointed.

In January, 1939, another step was taken toward giving Mascoutah a very modern, up-to-date library. At a meeting of the Women's Club Executive Committee and the Library Committee, Mascoutah Mayor Raymond Pfeifer announced that a room in the new City Hall would be set aside for the library. Not only would the city supply the room, but they would furnish tables, chairs, and book shelves.

The new room would be on the second floor of the new City Hall and would extend across the entire front of the building. As the new City Hall was still under construction, the library would be available for occupancy when the municipal building was complete. When the library moved from 15 West Main Street into its new City Hall location on June 30, 1939, it owned 900 books. At this time the Women's Club added an even larger number of volumes to the existing collection. Dedication of the City Hall took place July 4, 1939.

The WPA continued to staff and maintain the library until 1941, when the Mascoutah Women's Club again resumed responsibilities for operation and management. Hours were curtailed, however, to two afternoons a week due to financing constraints. With over-

whelming public support, on March 16, 1942, the city council voted to adopt the library as their project and a small tax was levied for its operation and management. The City Council also appointed members of the Women's Club to the Library Board.

Through the years the Mascoutah Women's Club continued to support the library in many ways from financial support and donations of books to serving as members of the new library board. It is through the direct efforts of this group of dedicated women that has allowed Mascoutah to enjoy a community library providing many opportunities for the young people of the area to learn about their community and the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 75th Anniversary of the Mascoutah Public Library and the contributions of the Mascoutah Women's Club at helping to establish this important community resource.

RECOGNITION OF THE BALTIC MEMBERS OF THE COALITION OF THE WILLING

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give recognition to three members of the "Coalition of the Willing"—Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania.

These Baltic nations have answered the call to freedom. The people of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania should feel very proud of the effort their governments have given to the rebuilding of Iraq and during Operation Iraqi Freedom. They have troops deployed in Iraq and these men and women are putting their lives on the line in the fight for freedom and democracy. In fact Latvia has deployed 150 soldiers, Estonia 55, and Lithuania 85. The sacrifice they are making should not be taken lightly.

These countries understand what freedom is, and what it takes to ensure it. I wish more countries had the same sense of duty and responsibility as these three nations. When the future is written, what they have done and sacrificed will not be forgotten. I applaud all of their efforts and I am very proud of what they have accomplished. The Coalition of the Willing has been criticized as being "token allies" and claims of ulterior motives have been made. I for one don't believe any of this and I am glad these countries have joined our efforts. This is a fight worth fighting, and I salute our friends from Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LARRY EDWARD PENLEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to one of our nation's top educators. Larry Edward Penley will be inaugurated in the coming weeks as the President of Colorado State University, and with his rich academic back-

ground, the students of Colorado will be well served. Larry has been improving the lives of American students for years, and I would like to join my colleagues here today in recognizing his tremendous service to the Colorado community and this nation.

Larry received both his bachelor's degree in psychology and his master's degree in communication from Wake Forest University before completing his doctorate in Management at the University of Georgia. Following graduate school Larry joined the faculty at the University of Texas at San Antonio where he eventually served as associate dean of the College of Business. In 1991, he was appointed as dean of the Arizona State W.P. Carey School of Business which he saw become one of the nation's most prominent business schools.

Larry is a well-rounded academic who has been involved with several community improvement organizations like the United Way and the Arizona Coalition for Tomorrow. His research has focused on effective management skills and he is published in several of the nation's top academic journals. In addition to his service to the University and multiple associations he has consulted for, Larry has been awarded several honors, such as the MBA Students Associations Lifetime Achievement Award and the Hispanic Business Students Association Century Award for Exemplary Support and Leadership. Larry has raised millions of dollars for Arizona State University as he revised the curriculum to include more technology and actively recruited a diverse range of the nation's top high school students.

Mr. Speaker, Larry Edward Penley is a dedicated, selfless person who has been a wonderful ambassador for education in our country, and I am honored to welcome him to the Colorado academic community. His passion for public service is an outstanding example to set for America's youth, and his enthusiasm and commitment certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress and this nation. Congratulations on your new position, and keep up the good work!

CONGRATULATING ALEXANDRA HOLDERMAN AND KARVA VAIDYANATHAN FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY VOLUNTEER SERVICE

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate two of my constituents for receiving recognition by the ninth annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards; Alexandra Holderman of Mishawaka, Indiana, and Karva Vaidyanathan of Granger, Indiana. These awards constitute America's largest youth recognition program based exclusively on volunteerism. The program was created by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important.

Alexandra was named one of the top two youth volunteers in Indiana for 2004. She will be honored at the national awards ceremony

in Washington, DC, this coming May. Nominated by LaSalle Elementary School, Alexandra has collected and delivered more than 1,200 bundles of baby clothing, blankets, diapers, and other supplies over the past five years for infants born to needy single and teen-age mothers.

Karva has been named a Distinguished Finalist by the program's judges, and will receive a bronze medallion for her outstanding volunteer work. Karva collected 25 cartons of school supplies and \$3,000 to purchase computers for orphans attending a vocational training school in India.

I am proud of the work accomplished by Alexandra and Karva, and I commend them for taking an active role in their communities. They have demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and they deserve our sincere admiration and respect. Their actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

HONORING THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGACY FOUNDATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Legacy Foundation, a national organization dedicated to helping young people reject tobacco and Americans quit smoking. The foundation recently celebrated its fifth anniversary and I am proud that this organization has chosen our Nation's Capital as its home base.

Forty-seven million Americans smoke, but tobacco is not an equal opportunity killer. Forty years ago, the well educated and affluent smoked more, but the 21st century smoker is typically lower income and less educated. Today, the negative impact of tobacco-related disease disproportionately affects the poor and ethnic or cultural minorities.

For the last 2 fiscal years, the District of Columbia ranked last among the States in tobacco prevention spending. This is exactly why Congress must support the Metro D.C. Call Center, as well as innovative and results-oriented programs like the American Legacy Foundation's truth[®] campaign, Circle of Friends and Great Start. The Metro D.C. Call Center and programs such as truth[®] do help DC residents reject tobacco and pursue healthier lifestyles.

The American Legacy Foundation was created out of the Master Settlement Agreement put forth by our Nation's attorneys general, but under the terms of the agreement, the American Legacy Foundation received its last payment earlier this year. This dramatic reduction of resources jeopardizes all of the successes the foundation has achieved.

That's why I would like to ask my fellow colleagues to join me in recognizing the American Legacy Foundation and its groundbreaking programs, and pledge our continued support for this vital organization.

HONORING TRENT TOUCHSTONE OF THE U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a member of the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) in North Texas who has served with distinction. Supervisory Criminal Investigator Trent Touchstone has achieved a reputation within the law enforcement community as a professional manager who understands that training and agency coordination are the cornerstones of successful law enforcement operations.

During Mr. Touchstone's tenure with the USMS, this dedicated public servant has coordinated the location and apprehension of violent offenders among more than two dozen law enforcement agencies. Trent is responsible for the development and supervision of the Northern District of Texas' Special Response Team, which supports other law enforcement agencies in high-threat arrest operations, assists with their tactical training, and participates in multi-agency law enforcement competitions.

Trent was also instrumental in building the USMS Northern District of Texas' (N/TX) Training Facility. Since the N/TX Training Facility opened its doors, more than 1,100 state and local officers from 98 law enforcement agencies have trained at the facility. Supervisor Touchstone has also developed training films for Deputy U.S. Marshals and Court Security Officers depicting many dangerous situations they may encounter.

I am pleased to join Mr. Touchstone's colleagues in congratulating him on receiving the USMS Distinguished Service Award. His tireless devotion to public service has been an asset to the law enforcement community in North Texas and the citizens they protect.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Chairman, I voted in favor of the Congressional Black Caucus substitute amendment, the Blue Dog substitute and the Democratic substitute. None of these budget resolutions is perfect, but all are improvements over the Republican budget.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF RANDY HICKS

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend Randy Hicks on the occasion of his retirement from BASF Corporation after twenty-seven dignified years of employment.

Serving as the Communication Manager since 2001, Mr. Hicks has shown tremendous dedication and leadership throughout his long-lasting employment. He began his career in the Marine Corps and served two years of duty in Vietnam. In 1968, after departing from the Marines, he worked for Ford Motor Company in Wyandotte while attending Wayne State University and studying business administration. Mr. Hicks began his employment at the BASF Corporation as a Human Resource Manager before becoming the Communication Manager.

In addition to working at BASF Corporation, Mr. Hicks finds many ways to channel his supportive energy into the community. A past Chairman of the Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber and Detroit Heritage River Business Committee, he serves on the Board of Wyandotte Federal Credit and Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital. He also has invested his time and effort into the Board of the Southeast Michigan Community Alliance Workforce Development, the City of Wyandotte Police and Fire Commission, and the Advisory Panel of Wayne County Community College.

I am personally indebted to Randy Hicks for the support and active role he played in turning the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge from a dream into a reality. Randy understood immediately the long-term and lasting benefits the Refuge would create and with his support, we actively built both a Refuge and a constituency. As a result of Randy's involvement the BASF Corporation has put a couple of parcels of property into the Refuge and hopes to add others.

As Mr. Hicks enters his retirement years, I would like to extend my best wishes for a relaxing and enjoyable future. I would like to thank him for all of his hard work and commitment to BASF Corporation and the Downriver community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask that my colleagues join me in commending Randy Hicks for leadership in both his corporation and community, as we celebrate his twenty-seven years of dedication to the BASF Corporation.

RURAL JOB LOSS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, today the Congressional Rural Caucus held a forum on job losses in rural America. This is a critical issue in my district and in rural districts across the country. I would like to submit my comments on this issue for the RECORD.

I represent Michigan's 1st congressional district—the most rural district in Michigan. My constituents are all too familiar with job loss. Michigan has an unemployment rate of 7.6 percent—well over the national average. There are areas in my district where the unemployment rate actually exceeds 12 percent. 12 percent!

Since January 2001, 2.8 million manufacturing jobs have been lost across the country, 128,900 in Michigan alone. That is a loss of 1 out of every 6 factory jobs. In Michigan manufacturing is the engine of economic growth for our state—so you can see why the impact of rural job loss has been particularly devastating.